

Thomson, Richard Mather

24th May 1914

April 27th, 1914

Chief Justice R. W. Meredith,

Ottawa, Ont.

My dear Mr. Chief Justice:

I have known Dr. Braitwaite in a general way for several years though not sufficiently well to be able to say definitely whether he has the qualifications you require for the presidency of the Western University. He holds his doctor's degree from Harvard University, if I am not mistaken. Before going to Calgary he had several interviews with me and I rather think that I discussed him more completely than here. The situation in Calgary was extremely difficult, if not impossible, and it is doubtful whether even a very nicely phrased war could have gone headway against the opposition. I do not think that his withdrawal from Calgary should work seriously against Dr. Braitwaite. He has, I should say, a good deal of determination, a good training, and probably some gifts as a speaker, though I have never heard him. As to his general powers of ~~determination~~ ^{administration} I am unable to speak. I am sorry that I am unable to give you a more definite opinion, but as I said before my acquaintance with Dr. Braitwaite consists of interviews in my office.

With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.

May 1st, 1914

Chief Justice Meredith,

London, Ont.

My dear Mr. Chief Justice:

I should not like my opinion as to the gentleman about whom we had correspondence made public in any way. I do not object to its being communicated privately to those who are in responsible positions, but certainly I would want it to be confidential in that sense.

I am afraid that I cannot recommend a man for Physiology. They are extremely difficult to find. I think, however, that if you were to correspond with Professor A. E. Macallum he might be able to give you some advice. I know that we cannot get men for the second place, young men of promise who would be willing to take a salary of \$2000 to \$2500. There are so few physiologists that the best places draw them off.

Perhaps Dr. J. A. Arnot might be able to mention some man in Public Health who might be qualified to take the Directorship of the Institute. I suppose from your letter that Dr. Hill is leaving. Dr. Westbrook of British Columbia had a great deal to do with the organisation of Public Health in Minnesota and gathered a number of young men around him. He might be able also to send you information. Dr. Mullin of Minnesota, one of our graduates, is a very promising man. Possibly he might fit the place. With kind regards, I am,

Yours sincerely,

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